



GREENVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA RELEASE



Releasing Official: Lieutenant Mike Gambrell
Public Information Officer

Date: January 4, 2002

Type of Incident: Abuse of Vulnerable Adult

Our department was notified by a long term care ombudsman through Appalachian Council of Governments that on November 9, 2001 during an inspection of a residential care facility, a 93 year old female was found dehydrated due to malnutrition along with bed sores. EMS personnel was summoned as the victim was transported to Greenville Memorial Hospital. After examination and treatment of her injuries, she was relocated to another facility. Three other females were at the facility during this inspection with no problems associated. Our investigation began as statements were taken from multiple individuals pertaining to the abusive treatment rendered to the victim by the caretaker of the facility. In addition, medical records along with other probable cause was obtained during this investigative time to be presented to a judge for the obtaining of a warrant.

The residential care facility in question was the E.M. Wright Care Center, Inc. at 120 Arlington Avenue which is managed by the caretaker of these allegations named Essie Wright. As a result of the probable cause gathered, warrant number G723646 was obtained for Essie Wright concerning the charge of Vulnerable Adult Abuse.

On today's date, our department along with representatives from DHEC and DSS went to 120 Arlington Avenue for service of this warrant. Wright, a 54 year old black female, of 120 Arlington Avenue was taken into custody and transported to the Greenville County Detention Center as bond was set at \$50,000. DHEC officials presented Wright with a notification letter stating that her license to operate a residential care facility was suspended until this matter is resolved. DSS officials took custody of the four females found at the facility for relocation purposes. A picture along with copy of the warrant on Wright is available upon request.

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